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EP!C Families, Guardians, and Advocates,

6-27-2020

May 12th was our last reported case of COVID-19. There have been no new positive cases in over 6 weeks. We are very thankful to all our Team Members throughout EP!C for maintaining our focus on preventing exposure to the people we serve. As our State moves into Phase 4, everyone must continue to use caution when in the community and around groups of people.

Our COVID Program Workgroup continues to focus on the reopening of Day Services and has done a great job preparing daily activities and virtual lessons for the residents who live in EP!C's Homes and our Hose Homes. If you are interested in these resources, please contact Doris Hayes using the contact information below. At this time, the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) is still not allowing Community Day Service providers to begin on-site services until August 31st. The Educational Services classrooms are being prepared along with the entire building for the long-awaited day we can reopen. The Workgroup has developed schedules, beginning with a few small groups of people, and then increasing the numbers as we adapt to the health and safety changes that are now our norm throughout the facility.

IDHS has begun to send out guidelines and eligibility tools that they recommend Providers begin to use in preparation for when IDHS permits agencies to reopen. During the time between now and August 31<sup>st</sup>, the Department is also challenging Community Day Service Providers to RE-INVENT themselves. In the next couple of months, EP!C will be reaching out to the people we serve and our families/ guardians to seek input on EP!C's pre-COVID services and future services.

Remember at any time you have questions please feel free to call or email:

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Enjoy your weekend and take care,

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Kim Cornwell, CEO